

REMARKS

Claims 28, 29, 31- 46, 48, 49 and 52-57 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 28, 33, 37, 39, 40, 45, 50, and 55-57 have been amended as shown on pages 2-6 of the Reply. Claims 31 and 32 have been cancelled.

Applicant's representative appreciates the Examiner's acknowledgement that claims 32 and 37-39 would be allowable if rewritten in independent claim form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, independent claims 28, 45, and 55 have been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 32, independent claim 50 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 37, independent claim 56 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claims 37 and 38, and independent claim 57 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 39.

Applicant's representative also thanks Examiner Ulrich for the courtesies extended during the telephonic interview conducted on April 3, 2008. During the interview, the Examiner indicated that he had reviewed the amendments and found no issues. The Examiner stated that he would conduct an additional search to ensure that the amendments traverse all art references of record.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and the Examiner's remarks in the Office Action, it is believed that the amended claim set herein is in condition for allowance.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

I. Objection of Claims 31, 33, 39 and 40

Claims 31, 33, 39 and 40 are objected to because of incorrect claim dependencies. Claims 31 had been cancelled, and claims 33, 39, and 40 have been amended to refer to the correct parent claim. It is therefore requested that this objection be withdrawn.

II. Rejection of Claims 28, 29, 31-46, 48, 49, and 52-57 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 28, 29, 31-46, 48, 49, and 52-57 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over various cited art references. However, as noted *supra*, amended independent claims 28, 45, 50, and 55-57 have been amended to incorporate subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner in the Office Action dated January 25, 2008. In view of these amendment, it is

respectfully requested that these rejections be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP288USA].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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